

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/703,388

Examiner

Philip B. Tran

Applicant(s)

ARENS, DOUGLAS W.

Art Unit

2155

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 3/30/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4, 8-13, 15, 17-19, 21, 23 and 26-33.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☒ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☒ to Paper No./Mail Date 5/26/2004.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 12/12/2003
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date Attached.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Philip Tran
PRIMARY EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Sismilich (Reg. No. 41,314), the undersigned, on June 08, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 31 has been canceled.

Claims 1, 9 and 30 have been amended.

Amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A network configuration comprising:
one or more configured devices each of which comprises a server, hub, router, client or switch connected to the network, wherein at least one of the configured devices is capable of sending over the network at least a portion of its configuration information including its IP address and its subnet mask; and
an unconfigured device which comprises a server, hub, router, client, or switch connected to the network, wherein the unconfigured device is capable of creating its

~~own configuration information, including its own unique IP address, using the IP address and the subnet mask of a single one of the configured devices [[.]] by~~

combining the IP address of a single one of the configured devices with the subnet mask of the single one of the configured devices to form a device-independent address characteristic of the network;

generating a device address associated with the unconfigured device; and

combining the device-independent address with the device address to form a unique IP address of the unconfigured device.

Amend claim 9 as follows:

9. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method of configuring an unconfigured device connected to a network using configuration information of one configured device connected to the network, comprising:

sending over the network from the one configured device to the unconfigured device at least a portion of the configuration information of the configured device, the portion including an IP address and a subnet mask of the configured device, the IP address and the subnet mask of the configured device usable by the unconfigured device to create configuration information ~~including a unique IP address of the unconfigured device [[.]] by~~

combining the IP address of the one configured device with the subnet mask of the one configured device to form a device-independent address characteristic of the network;

generating a device address associated with the unconfigured device; and

combining the device-independent address with the device address to form a unique IP address of the unconfigured device.

Amend claim 30 as follows:

30. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method of configuring an unconfigured device connected to a network using configuration information of one configured device connected to the network, comprising:

receiving from the one configured device over the network at the unconfigured device at least a portion of the configuration information of the configured device, the portion including an IP address and a subnet mask of the configured device; and

~~using the IP address and the subnet mask of the configured device, the unconfigured device creating configuration information for the unconfigured device including a unique IP address of the unconfigured device [(.)]~~ **by**

combining the IP address with the subnet mask to form a device-independent address characteristic of the network,

generating a device address associated with the unconfigured device, and

**combining the device-independent address with the device address
to form a unique IP address of the unconfigured device.**

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

3. Claims 1-4, 8-13, 15, 17-19, 21, 23 and 26-33 are allowable over the prior art of record.
4. This communication warrants no examiner's reason for allowance, as applicant's reply makes evident the reason for allowance, satisfying the record as whole as required by rule 37 CFR 1.104 (e). In this case, the substance of applicant's remarks in the Amendment filed on 30 March 2006 with respect to the amended claim limitations and further amended claim limitations in the Examiner's Amendment filed on 08 June 2006 point out the reason claims are patentable over the prior art of record. Thus, the reason for allowance is in all probability evident from the record and no statement for examiner's reason for allowance is necessary (see MPEP 13202.14).
5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Philip B. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-3991. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

7. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Philip B. Tran
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2155
June 09, 2006